

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the Claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment to the Claim 1 is supported by the application as originally filed and does not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

The Examiner has rejected the Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Imai et al., stating that Imai et al. discloses each and every element of the present invention, and particularly stating that while Imai et al. does not disclose the step of raising the capillary to a height that is equal to or lower than a height of a ball portion that rises into a through-hole of said capillary during the formation of the bump, Imai et al. discloses a step wherein the capillary is raised vertically to a height above the second conductor, laterally moving the said capillary to the side of said bump away from the first conductor and this inevitably and inherently would have the steps to accomplish the formation of the inclined surface of the bump.

In reply thereto, Applicant has carefully reviewed Imai et al., and respectfully submits that the method of Imai et al. is shown in the Figures 2A through 2G, and the method of Applicant's invention is shown in Figure 1, steps (a) through (f). Applicant respectfully submits that a comparison of the method of Imai et al. and the method of the present invention clearly shows the patentable differences therebetween and which are claimed in Applicant's Claim 1.

In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that Imai et al. does not disclose that while pressing the ball onto the second conductor to form the bump thereon, a portion of the ball would rise into the through-hole in the capillary. In addition, and as is admitted by the Examiner, Imai et al. does not disclose that one would only raise the capillary to a height equal to or lower than the height of the portion of the ball that rises into the through-hole of the capillary during the formation of the bump. As is admitted by the Examiner, when going from Figure 2B to Figure 2C in Imai et al., the capillary 40 is raised so that it does not contact the bump L and then lowered to bring it into contact with the bump and with the wire inbetween. In the step of Figure 2D of Imai et al., the bump together with the wire is then pressed. In contrast thereto, in Applicant's invention, the capillary is not raised above the portion which extends into the through-hole in the capillary and the capillary is just merely moved toward the side. Such a movement by the capillary in Applicant's invention smears the portion which

projects into the through-hole to the right while also moving the bonding wire to the right, all of which is shown in step (d) of Figure 1 of Applicant's application. Applicant respectfully submits that such movement is not inherent in Imai et al.

In addition to the above, Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's invention provides a method which has advantages for making bumps which cannot be achieved with Imai et al. In particular, with Applicant's invention, bumps which are lower and have inclined wedges and which are smaller in size can be achieved by Applicant's invention. Still further, Applicant's invention is capable of creating the bumps faster than Imai et al. since Applicant's invention requires one less step and the capillary moves less distance.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is not anticipated by Imai et al.

In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this amendment be entered, favorably considered, and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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Name

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